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W E L L I N G T O N
U R B A N D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L
(SOMERSET)

A N N U A L R E P O R T

- of the -

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

for the year 1967

BY

DR. HUGH MORRISON
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.



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WELLINGTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL (SOMERSET)

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1967.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF, 1967

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

G. MURRAY PRICE, ESQ., J.P.

CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

J.A. DUNNING

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To:

THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WELLINGTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Report for 1967. The Report is drawn up in accordance with instructions from the Ministry of Health and contains the usual information on the health and sanitary circumstances of the district. The Report, in the main, follows the lines of those of previous years, but certain fresh facts have been incorporated in the various sections. The first of the two sections refers to the province of the Medical Officer of Health and the second is contributed by the Public Health Inspector. Since this is the last Annual Report to which Mr. Hill will be required to contribute, I should like to take this opportunity of expressing appreciation and gratitude for the way in which he has helped me, and for the excellent work which he has done over a period of many years for the health and well-being of the people of Wellington.

I wish to thank the Members of the Council, the Clerk and officials of other departments for their willing assistance and co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

HUGH MORRISON.

WELLINGTON URBAN DISTRICT

Area (in acres)	2,186
Estimate of Resident Population, mid year 1967...	8,060
Census Population 1961...	7,670
Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Books on 1st April, 1967	2,896
Rateable Value, 1st April, 1967	£259,875
Sum represented by a 1d Rate, 1st April, 1967	£1,056

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1967

1. Births.

(a) Live Births

	M.	F.	Total	
Legitimate	40	51	91	Crude birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population
Illegitimate	10	2	12	
Totals:	50	53	103	12.8

Standardised Birth Rate, Wellington U.D. 14.8

Birth Rate, England and Wales 17.2

(b) Stillbirths.

	Total	0
Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births -		
Wellington U.D.		0.0
England and Wales		14.8
Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population -		
Wellington U.D.		0.0

2. Deaths.

(a) Total deaths	90
Crude Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	11.16
Standardised death rate, Wellington U.D.	7.92
Death Rate for England and Wales	11.2

(b) Maternal Mortality

Total maternal mortality from all causes	0
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(c) Infant Mortality

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age - Total	1
Deaths among legitimate infants	1
Deaths among illegitimate infants	0
Death rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births -	
Wellington U.D.	10.0
England and Wales	18.3

(d) Deaths from Cancer (all ages) -

Total	17
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CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1967

Cause of Death	M	F	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	1	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus... ..	3	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	-	-
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	5	4	9
Leukemia, aleukemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	-	-
Vascular Lesions of nervous system... ..	7	14	21
Coronary disease, angina	12	2	14
Hypertension with heart disease	1	3	4
Other heart disease	2	4	6
Other circulatory disease	5	3	8
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	4	2	6
Bronchitis	-	-	-
Other disease of respiratory system	2	-	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea... ..	1	-	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations	1	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	4	6
Motor vehicle accidents	-	1	1
All other accidents	1	-	1
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
All causes - Total:	50	40	90

INFANT MORTALITY DURING 1967

There was one death in infants up to the age of one year which gave a rate per 1,000 births of 9.7. The cause of death was broncho-pneumonia.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Domiciliary Services

1. Medical and Nursing

There are six general medical practitioners living and carrying on practice in the Urban District. There are adequate arrangements when required for domiciliary consultation with consultants serving the Taunton and West Somerset Area and, speaking generally, the practice of medicine in the district is of a high standard. The provisions for domiciliary nursing are also satisfactory.

2. Home Help Service

This service, administered by the County Council, is well established in the district, and invaluable assistance is given in many cases of illness and the domestic difficulties arising therefrom. There is no doubt that this is one of the most useful of all public services. I am indebted to the County Organiser for the following analysis of cases where help was arranged in Wellington Urban District during 1967:-

Care of Children	1
Old age and infirmity	52
Chronic sick	7
Post operative	1
General illness	2
Maternity	2
Mental Illness	1
	66

Hospital Services

The Hospital Services of the district are administered by the Taunton Hospital Management Committee under the general direction of the S.W. Regional Hospital Board. A detailed re-appraisal of these services is going on at the present time following on the production by the Government of a comprehensive Hospital Plan for the nation. Some of the provisions for the needs of various types of patients are detailed below:-

1. General Medical and Surgical

The Taunton and Somerset Hospital, together with Musgrove Park Hospital, which is situated in the Borough of Taunton and which is probably eventually destined to supersede the first-named establishment, cater for most medical and surgical conditions. Musgrove Park Hospital takes most of the adult cases, and also has a comprehensive Paediatric department. The Taunton and Somerset Hospital is, in the meantime, dealing with Orthopaedics and Ophthalmology. It also houses the Casualty department for the area. Both hospitals have out-patients facilities in addition to in-patient beds. Certain cases requiring special investigation or treatment such as neurosurgery or radiotherapy are referred to Bristol Hospitals for this purpose. Wellington Cottage Hospital provides valuable facilities for local cases which do not require to be sent to large institutions, and complete consultant cover is available for the work carried out there.

2. Chronic Sick

Since the appointment of a Geriatrician to the West Somerset Clinical Area, arrangements for hospital treatment of the chronic sick have been put on a more satisfactory basis. Most of these cases are admitted to Trinity Hospital in Taunton. There continues to be a very great pressure on accommodation of this type, and this is a branch of medical care which will undoubtedly make increasing demands on medical and ancillary services as the years go on. There is also severe pressure on Part III accommodation for elderly people not requiring actual nursing, especially on the female side.

3. Infectious Diseases

Cases of infectious diseases from Wellington Urban District are sent to the Isolation Hospital situated in the Borough of Taunton. The bulk of the Isolation Hospital work is done in cubicle blocks. The pattern of infectious diseases requiring admission to hospital is certainly changing. Many of the patients admitted suffer from vague pyrexial illnesses in which the diagnosis is in doubt. Scarlet Fever which used to provide a large proportion of the admissions is, at the present time, a relatively mild disease, and most of the cases are nursed at home. Measles and Whooping Cough still demand hospital treatment in the occasional case where there are severe complications or where home nursing is impracticable. Diphtheria has not been seen

in the district for many years. Poliomyelitis is being brought under control by inoculation, and in the past few years there has not been a severe epidemic in this part of the country. Many cases are, however, admitted to hospital on suspicion of suffering from poliomyelitis, and these often provide difficult diagnostic problems. The extensive use of antibiotics has resulted in the appearance of severe infections due to certain bacteria which were formerly regarded as fairly harmless, and this leads to the admission of cases of this kind to the Isolation Hospital.

4. Tuberculosis

Cases of Pulmonary and Non Pulmonary Tuberculosis come under the Regional Hospital Board for treatment, which is supervised by the Chest Physician for the area. The Sanatoria are at Wincanton and Taunton for Pulmonary cases. Cases requiring orthopaedic treatment are becoming very uncommon, but when they do occur, arrangements for treatment are made according to individual need.

5. Poliomyelitis

Suspected cases are sent for diagnosis to the Taunton Isolation Hospital. If the condition is confirmed they are seen by Regional Specialists who arrange for continuation treatment either as out-patients or as in-patients at Bath Orthopaedic Hospital.

6. Mentally Sick

Cases are admitted to the Mental Hospital at Tone Vale, near Taunton. The psychiatric specialists conduct out-patients' clinics for the area, and it is felt that now, more than ever before, mental patients are having the benefit of treatment at an earlier and more hopeful stage of the disease.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

1. Tuberculosis

Clinics for patients suffering from this disease, and for the supervision of suspects and contacts are held by the Chest Physicians at Musgrove Park Hospital. There is an After-Care Committee working in co-operation with these clinics. Mass Radiography has been carried out from time to time on various groups of the county population by a team working from a centre in Bristol, and Wellington is one of the districts which has had the benefit of this service.

2. Venereal Disease

A combined clinic and treatment centre is carried on at the Taunton and Somerset Hospital which caters for male and female patients of this and surrounding districts.

Early cases of syphilis are usually sent to Frenchay Hospital, Bristol, for a fortnight's intensive penicillin treatment as in-patients. Afterwards they continue to have observation and treatment at the Taunton Clinic.

These conditions which had, for some years, become rather uncommon in the district have been latterly showing a marked increase in prevalence; and this is in accordance with the country as a whole.

3. Maternity and Child Welfare

The Maternity and Child Welfare Acts are administered by the County Council, under whose supervision are also the Health Visitors and Midwives practising within the area. There is an excellent Maternity Home in the Urban District of Wellington. Obstetric Consultants in Taunton are available for consultation with medical practitioners in the district. Abnormal and complicated cases are admitted for hospital treatment when necessary. Every case of Puerperal Pyrexia and Maternal Mortality is investigated by the medical staff of the County Council.

A valuable service is provided for premature infants. Small or premature babies unsuitable for nursing at home are admitted to a Special Care Unit at Musgrove Park Hospital, an ambulance equipped with

an Oxygenaire incubator being sent to collect them from their homes. If the baby is deemed fit to be nursed at home, the district midwife can obtain advice and special equipment to help her with the management of the case.

A weekly clinic is held in premises at Messrs. Fox Bros. at which the Health Visitors are in attendance.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Public Health Laboratory Service has a Laboratory in Taunton at which all the usual specimens connected with Public Health work, such as throat and nose swabs, blood, faeces and sputum are examined. The Staff of the Laboratory also give very useful assistance in the investigation of epidemic outbreaks. Chemical analyses are carried out as requested at the Laboratory of the County Analyst at Taunton.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

Ambulance transport for all cases is the responsibility of the Somerset County Council. The main Ambulance Station and Control for the south-west of the County is situated at the entrance to Musgrove Park Hospital. The Ambulance Station serves a very wide area and at 31st December the establishment of vehicles and staff was as follows:-

Vehicles	-	8 Ambulances
		6 Sitting-case Ambulances
		1 Car
Staff	-	5 Sub-officers
		24 Driver-attendants

All vehicles at this station are fitted with two-way radio.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - SECTION 47

No statutory action has been taken under this Act but some cases were dealt with informally.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

Regular sessions are held by the Regional Hospital Board Unit on one afternoon of each fortnight at the Longforth Road Car Park. Residents who wish to have a chest X-ray are welcomed at any one of these sessions and it is strongly urged that this facility should be freely used, especially by those over the age of 40 who would do well to have an annual chest X-ray.

As an example of the type of work done in a unit of this sort the following table shows the findings obtained from routine examinations at the Wellington centre during 1967.

	Male	Female	Total
Number examined	152	182	334
Abnormalities detected	6	-	6
Details of abnormalities detected -			
Acquired Cardiac Lesion	2	-	2
Bacterial and Virus Infections of the Lungs	2	-	2
Bronchitis, Fibrosis and Emphysema...	1	-	1
Pleurisy and Fibrosing Alveolitis ...	1	-	1

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There was a sharp epidemic of measles which produced 210 notifications as against only 2 in the previous year. No other infectious diseases were notified. At the end of 1967 there were firm prospects that a beginning would be made with measles immunisation during the following summer.

The tuberculosis register was gone over carefully at the end of the year and a number of names were found to require removal. The remaining totals on the register were: Pulmonary Tuberculosis 9; Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis 5. No fresh cases were notified during the year.

IMMUNISATION

Immunisation has been of striking benefit in lowering the incidence of various infectious diseases and in preventing deaths from these conditions. This work is going on steadily in Wellington as in other areas of the County, but at present the mechanics of recording each child's immunisation and of preparing notices for parents as each procedure falls due for the individual child is being transferred to the County Council Computer.

Children are grouped according to the particular medical practitioner on whose list they are, and the various medical practices are being brought into the scheme over a period of time. During the transition, figures are no longer available for estimating the percentage of children at various ages who have been immunised against the different diseases in individual districts of the County, which is information that it is valuable to have; but when the reorganisation has been completed it will again become possible to estimate the proportion of children immunised, and this should show an increase.

The following table sets out the schedule of immunisation considered desirable for children at the present time, and it is followed by some brief notes referring to each of the diseases concerned:-

AGE	IMMUNISATION PROCEDURE
1 - 6 months	1. Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus (combined injection) Poliomyelitis vaccine (by mouth) 4 - 6 weeks interval 2. Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus (combined injection) Poliomyelitis vaccine (by mouth) 4 - 6 weeks interval 3. Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus (combined injection) Poliomyelitis vaccine (by mouth)
During 2nd year of life	4. Smallpox Vaccination
18 - 21 months	5. Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus (combined injection) Poliomyelitis vaccine (by mouth)
At school entry	6. Diphtheria, Tetanus (combined injection) Poliomyelitis vaccine (by mouth)
8 - 12 years	7. Diphtheria and Tetanus (re-inforcing combined injection)
12 years	8. B.C.G. Vaccination against T.B.

Diphtheria Immunisation

The immunisation campaign against diphtheria has been an outstanding success in this district and in the country as a whole; but it remains essential that all young children should be given the benefit of this protection, and there is some evidence that without constant stress on this fact, the number of children being immunised each year might easily fall to a dangerously low level.

Whooping Cough Immunisation

This is now probably the most generally disabling of the common infectious diseases affecting young children. There are risks to life, especially in infants, and lung complications can be severe and prolonged. Immunisation is preventive in a good proportion of cases and in the remainder modifies the disease to produce a mild attack.

Tetanus Immunisation

This is an uncommon infection in this country but important because of its very severe character and the high rate of mortality in those affected. It is much commoner in some of the less developed parts of the world, and even in Europe at least 26,000 have died from this cause in the past ten years. Immunisation gives the practical certainty of complete protection.

Poliomyelitis Immunisation

It is hardly necessary to stress the misery which can result from this disease in view of the widespread epidemics which have occurred in this country within recent memory. Many of the sufferers die, and others are left with a lifetime of disablement. Immunisation is now simple with the use of vaccine given by mouth and has been largely responsible for the virtual elimination of poliomyelitis as a serious epidemic risk in this country at the present time. Here again it is essential that a high proportion of children continue to be immunised in order to avoid the danger of further outbreaks.

Smallpox Vaccination

Smallpox is one of the most deadly of all infectious diseases. Its incidence in this country has been confined in latter years to scattered outbreaks, but the dangers of large-scale epidemics are increasing owing to the ease and rapidity of air transport from countries where the disease is still endemic. Vaccination gives excellent protection, and is best done initially in the second year of life.

Tuberculosis - B.C.G. Immunisation

One of the most dramatic improvements in the state of the national health has been the enormous fall over the period since the last war, in the prevalence of tuberculosis and in the number of deaths which it causes. There are many factors responsible for this gratifying development, and one of them undoubtedly is the beneficial effect of the widespread campaign of immunisation with B.C.G. which has been carried out. The required injection is given at about the age of twelve after preliminary skin testing to determine which children are susceptible to an attack of the disease.

172 children attending school in the Urban District were given the Heaf Test and 163 were given B.C.G. Vaccination.

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SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

On the 1st April 1963, the public water undertaking was transferred to the then newly formed West Somerset Water Board and the Council ceased to have direct control. The Council, under the West Somerset Water Board Order, has one representative on the Board. After taking over the water undertaking the Board ceased to draw water from the Payton and Westford Springs and the source of the supply is now derived from the Pitt Farm Borehole and Clatworthy Reservoir, the latter being situated in the area of the Williton Rural Council. The Payton and Westford Springs are being maintained for use only in case of emergency. The water is chlorinated before it reaches the consumer.

The County Public Analyst Report on the chemical analysis of a sample taken from a consumer's tap is that it is of satisfactory chemical purity. The water from Pitt Farm Borehole is a hard water of satisfactory organic purity but contained an excessive amount of iron (1.5 parts per million). This water when mixed with the water from Clatworthy Reservoir showed the presence of 1.3 parts per million of iron which, although undesirable, is no danger to health and should not exceed 0.5 parts per million.

The supply of the area has been satisfactory as regards quantity. It is constant and it has not been necessary to restrict the hours of supply. One sample of raw water on bacteriological examination gave good results and twelve samples of chlorinated water taken from consumers taps and bacteriologically examined all gave satisfactory results.

A sample chemically analysed from the Pitt Farm Borehole supply gave satisfactory results as regards organic purity but the degree of total hardness 265.0 parts per million is almost temporary. The amount of iron fluctuates, since 1952 it has varied between 0.5 to 2.5 parts per million, the last sample gave 1.5 parts per million which is more than desirable in water used for drinking and domestic purposes.

There are 2,848 dwellinghouses supplied direct from the public mains serving a population of 7,995 and two dwellings with a population of five are supplied by means of standpipes.

The water is not liable to have any plumbo-solvent action, the total hardness being 280.0 parts per million, this being the mixed water from the two sources of supply as supplied to the consumer.

It has not been necessary to take action in respect of any form of contamination.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Tone Sewage Works consists essentially of continuous flow settlement tanks the effluent from which flows on to sprinkler aeration and bacteria beds. The clarified effluent so formed discharges into the River Tone. It is of statutory quality and has caused no nuisance in the river. The effluent continues to give satisfactory results on chemical analysis. These works are running at full capacity.

In addition to the above main Sewage Disposal Works there is a smaller Works dealing with a limited amount of sewage to the South of the Town known as Mitchells Pool Sewage Works. These Works serve the Pyles Thorne area and the Priory. The effluent from these Works give satisfactory chemical analysis results. A small disposal plant at Farthings Pitts deals with sewage from fourteen dwellings in that area.

The drainage from the Town is by a combined system, that is, the sewers receive not only the sewage but also the rainwater that falls in the area. Where possible the surface water from new buildings is now taken to soakaways.

The River Tone bounds the Town on the North and West. The treated effluent of a woollen factory passes into the river as well as the effluent from the sewage works. The water carriage system is universal in the District.

As building continues to increase the Tone and Mitchells Pool Sewage Works are becoming inadequate to effectively deal with the increased flow. The Council has instructed their Consulting Engineers to prepare a scheme to lay a trunk sewer from Mitchells Pool (and eventually close these Works) to the Tone Disposal Works which will be enlarged to treat the whole of the sewerage of the Urban District with the exception of the small amount at Farthings Pitts. It is hoped that a Report on this scheme will be received and work commenced in the year 1968.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

This is undertaken by direct labour and refuse from all premises is collected weekly. The type of refuse now produced has a very high unburnable content due to the increasing installation of improved solid fuel heating appliances by which much of the domestic refuse is consumed leaving burnt ashes, dust, tins and bottles etc. for disposal. There is also a very high percentage of paper and packing material.

All refuse is disposed of at the controlled Canal Tip for which mechanical equipment has been purchased and the refuse is covered

Trade refuse from business premises is collected weekly. Two bins are collected free and all in excess are charged at the rate of 1/- per bin for the first three and 9d for each additional bin. The size of the bin is restricted to $3\frac{1}{2}$ cubic feet.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

No Council houses or other premises were found to be infected during the year.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There are no offensive trades in the district within the meaning of Section 107 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

REGISTERED COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no registered common lodging houses within the Urban District.

SCHOOLS

The sanitary conditions of the schools in the area continue to be reasonably satisfactory and they are all on the public water supply and sewerage system.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

In the district there is one Caravan Site which is licensed for 50 residential caravans and 10 touring (overnight) caravans which is situated off the trunk road A38. Considerable improvements have been carried out and the caravans are placed on concrete standings, adequate mains water is supplied by sufficient standpipes and there are two toilet blocks with sufficient showers and sanitary accommodation. The roads are laid in tarmac and lighted by electricity and parking spaces are provided. There is also one Caravan Club Site which is exempt from a licence.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

There is one privately owned open-air swimming pool in the district and its use is restricted to Club members and schoolchildren in term-time, it is not open to the public. The capacity is 65,625 gallons.

The rate of circulation of water in the pool is below the standard recommended by the Ministry of Health and there has been difficulty at times in keeping chlorination up to the desirable level. 26 samples were taken for bacteriological examination of which 23 were satisfactory and 3 unsatisfactory. Careful checking of conditions at the pool and frequent inspections are made to avoid danger to public health.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

NATURE AND NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS DURING THE YEAR:-

Dwellinghouses	793
Factories, workshops and workplaces...	27
Drainage	98
Miscellaneous	136

NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED DURING THE YEAR:-

Informal Notices	72
Statutory Notices	0

RESULTS OF NOTICES SERVED:-

Total Notices complied with... ..	57
Notices standing over at the end of year	15

SHOP ACT, 1950

Certain powers relating to health and comfort and sanitary provisions are delegated by the County Council to this Authority.

The Act has been well complied with during the year and no serious defects have been recorded. Those which were observed have been dealt with by informal action and it has not been necessary to serve statutory enforcement notices. No special difficulties have been experienced in getting work put in hand which has chiefly consisted of repairs to existing sanitary conveniences and washing facilities and additional conveniences, improved lighting and ventilation, limewashing of store-rooms etc. and the abatement of nuisances.

Very little use is made of the requirement to provide facilities for taking meals in or about the shop as the majority of the assistants go home for the mid-day meal and shops close for the luncheon hour, others have living accommodation on the premises. Most of the larger shops have staff rest rooms and facilities for the assistants to take a light meal if necessary.

The work has progressed smoothly during the year and 47 inspections were made apart from visits for other purposes, the Act has been well observed and no special points of administrative difficulty has arisen during the year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

URBAN DISTRICT OF WELLINGTON 1967

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the

Factories Act, 1961

PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health made by the Public Health Inspector:-

Premises	Number on Register	NUMBER OF		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	19	12	3	--
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	23	15	4	--
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:-	42	27	7	--

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	1	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	4	4	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act	3	3	-	-	-
TOTAL	11	11	-	-	-

BAKEHOUSES

There are two bakehouses in the district and seven inspections were made. They are kept in a satisfactory condition and are on the public water supply. Minor defects have been noted and dealt with by informal action.

MEAT INSPECTION

On the 1st October 1963 the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963 came into force requiring that all home killed meat must be inspected before it leaves the slaughterhouse. The Regulations also permit the Council to make a charge for the inspection of all carcasses and offal. 100% inspection of all animals slaughtered is now carried out and the maximum charges made.

There are two slaughterhouses in the district in regular use. Details of inspections and condemnations were as follows:-

Carcasses and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	258	0	7	1514	13
Number Inspected	258	0	7	1514	13
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	0	0	0	0	0
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	32	0	0	3	0
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci.	12.4	0	0	0.2	0
<u>Tuberculosis only:-</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	0	0	0	0	0
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	0	0	0	0	0
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	0	0	0	0	0
<u>Cysticercosis:-</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	0	0	0	0	0
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	0	0	0	0	0
Generally and totally condemned.	0	0	0	0	0
<u>Weight of Meat condemned (in lbs) for:-</u>					
(a) Tuberculosis	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Cysticercosis	0	0	0	0	0
(c) Other	495	0	0	18	0
Total (in lbs) condemned:-	495	0	0	18	0

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS .

No outbreaks of food poisoning have occurred in the district during the year under review.

FOOD PREMISES .

Inspections are made of food premises and advice given on methods of improving conditions. It is pleasing to record that the majority of traders are willing to co-operate.

54 inspections have been made of the food premises registered under the Food & Drugs Act, 1955, which are, on the whole, kept in a satisfactory state. The food traders are co-operative in having suggested improvements carried out, and no exceptional difficulties have been encountered. There remains improvement to be made in personal hygiene in the handling and wrapping of food.

There are 10 premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of preserved foods, 48 for the sale of ice-cream and 1 to manufacture and sell ice-cream under the Food & Drugs Act, 1955.

With the exception of the small retail manufacturer of ice-cream whose sale from the shop is small, other ice-cream sold from registered premises in the district is pre-packed and sold as received from the large manufacturers.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS .

Inspections have been continued during the year and the general standard of food premises has improved, and food producers and retailers are realising the need and advantage derived from clean and up-to-date premises, this is supported by the increasing awareness of the public for the need of clean habits in food handling, and a more critical attitude towards those who fail to observe proper elementary precautions. The process is one of education on the actual premises when various bad practices can be pointed out, and it is also important that hygiene practices should be observed in the home so that the younger generation will have the benefit. It has not been necessary to take legal proceedings during the year.

Experience has proved beyond doubt that the vital part played by refrigeration in minimising the risk of food poisoning is greatly to be encouraged.

Number of food premises in the area		73
Number registered		
For the sale of ice-cream		49
For the preparation of other food		10
Number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 16	...	70
(Wash-basins, hot and cold water etc.)		
Number of premises to which Regulation 19 applies		43
(Sinks, hot and cold water etc.)		
Number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 19	...	41

POULTRY PROCESSING PREMISES .

There are no poultry processing premises within the Urban District.

TUBERCULOSIS ORDER .

No cows were slaughtered under this Order during the year.

HOUSING .

Due to many setbacks it was not possible to commence building the extension at Priory in 1967 but the Contractors moved in on the site on the 8th January 1968 and commenced the erection of 201 dwellings which they promise to complete in May 1969.

The Council has completed the modernisation of 232 of their 346 pre-war dwellings and the remainder are in the process of being done. The modernisation work consists of the redesigning of the bathroom with lavatory basin and W.C., the enlargement of the kitchen where practicable and provision of a hot water supply to serve the bathroom and kitchen. Renewal of electric wiring with many additional points. In all dwellings, where it is possible, a bathroom on the first floor with W.C. is being provided but in some houses this is not practicable and the existing bathroom has to remain on the ground floor and a W.C. and lavatory basin compartment provided on the first floor.

The problem of condensation in dwellings on our housing estates, and indeed throughout the country, has in recent years been a matter of grave concern to the Housing Manager. There is often no ventilation other than windows to carry away the moisture. Where the occupants are working all day windows cannot be left open and in cold weather it is virtually impossible to have windows open. To reduce the cost of heating by solid fuel, gas and electricity, paraffin heaters are often used. One gallon of paraffin burns to produce 10 pints of water, the result is a large amount of condensation on cold walls with severe dampness. The leaflet prepared for the Ministry of Housing & Local Government on condensation and simple ways to avoid this cause of dampness has been sent to all the Council's tenants and is available free of charge to **any** householder.

The Council give every encouragement to owners to improve their houses by means of improvement grants for providing bathrooms, hot water, indoor toilet facilities and foodstores as well as for larger schemes of conversion of houses into flats and thorough modernisation. Grants are available for this and the conditions are not onerous. The result has been disappointing, there only having been three discretionary and twenty-four standard grant applications received during the year, all of which were approved.

The following table shows the number of dwellings owned by the Council and dates of erection (or purchase). No 31 Mantle Street has been presented to the Council by Mr. G.S. Hill in memory of the family of Charles Hill.

DWELLINGS OWNED BY THE COUNCIL

NOS.	ADDRESS	DATE ERECTED	HOUSES	FLATS	BUNGALOWS	TOTAL
1-4	Alexandra Flats	1953		4		4
1-32	Alexandra Road	1927	32			32
1-36	Blackdown Road	1947	24	12		36
1-52	Brendon Road	1936	52			52
31-34	Buckwell	1959		4		4
	Bulford	1960/63	2	44	10	56
	Bulford OPD	1963	1	32		33
1-8	Canal Close	1967		8		8
2-8	Champford Lane (Purchased)		4			4
1-42	Church Fields	1923	42			42
1-8	Church Green	1946		8		8
5-12	Court Drive	1953		8		8
26-39	Crosslands	1930	14			14
1-38	Greenway Road	1938	28	8		36
39-53	Holyoake Street	1954	8			8
34-62	Holyoake Street OPD	1959		4	11	15
1-99	Howard Road	1948/49/51	56	21		77
1-37	Longforth Road	1923	34			34
21-36	Lower Foxmoor Road	1928	16			16
6-21	Northside, Oaken Ground	1964		16		16
1-102	Oaken Ground	1951/55	66	36		102
1-22	Olands Road	1926	22			22
1-59	Parklands Road	1949/50	54	4		58
1-16	Popes Lane	1928	16			16
1-106	Priory	1956/57	42	64		106
1-42	Quantock Road	1938	34	12		46
30, 32	Seymour Street	1954	2			2
35a-35c	Wellesley Park (Purchased)			3		3
1-16	Stedhams Close	1963		16		16
1-28	Stoneleigh	1953/55	16	16		32
27-74	Tone Hill	1949/55	22	8		30
62	Bulford (Purchased)		1			1
14-21	Victoria Street	1923	8			8
31	Mantle Street	Gift	1			1
<u>Totals</u>			597	328	21	946

The following table is required by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government:-

1.	The number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation	1
2.	The number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	102
3.	The number of Representations made to the Local Authority with a view to (a) serving of notices requiring the execution of works; or (b) the making of Demolition or Closing Orders	1
4.	The number of informal notices served requiring the execution of works	72
5.	The number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	0
6.	The number of Demolition or Closing Orders made	0
7.	The number of houses in respect of which an Undertaking was accepted under Sub-Section (4) of Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957	1
8.	The number of houses demolished	12

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, emphasises the duty of every Local Authority to take all necessary steps to secure, as far as practicable, that their district is kept free from rats and mice. Occupiers must notify the Local Authority if their premises are infested with rodents. It is encouraging to record that occupiers of infested premises have been extremely helpful in co-operation with the Department in the clearance of vermin, and in no instance has recourse to statutory action been necessary. The Council employ one part-time Rodent Operator.

